

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KINGST 03901 212011Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00
XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00
/103 W

-----023011 212019Z /63

P 211804Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6350UE

UNCLAS KINGSTON 3901

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ECON, PDEV, JM

SUBJECT: FERTILIZER SHORTAGE IN JAMAICA

1. THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR OF JAMAICA IS FACING A
POTENTIAL CRISIS DUE TO A SUDDEN SHORTAGE IN THE
AVAILABILITY OF FERTILIZERS. EXTREME SHORTAGES OF
NITROGEN BASED FERTILIZERS, AMMONIA SULFATES, UREA,
AND MIX FERTILIZERS HAVE DEVELOPED.

2. ACCORDING TO MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE
DESMOND LEAKEY, THE SHORTAGES ARE DUE TO A PROTRACTED
STRIKE BY STEVEDORES AGAINST THE
ANTILLES CHEMICAL
COMPANY, JAMAICA'S LEADING FERTILIZER PRODUCER.
DURING THE LAST WEEK, ONE SHIP LOADED WITH NITROGEN WAS
TURNED AWAY WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO OFFLOAD ITS CARGO.
MR. LEAKEY SAID THE MINISTRY OF LABOR WAS ATTEMPTING
TO AMELIORATE THE STRIKE

THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN
THE STEVEDORES
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KINGST 03901 212011Z

AND ANTILLES CHEMICAL OFFICIALS.

3. HARDEST HIT BY THE SHORTAGES ARE SUGAR AND
BANANAS, BOTH OF JAMAICA'S LARGEST FOREIGN EXCHANGE
EARNING CROPS. A SPOKESMAN FOR ONE OF THE ISLAND'S
LARGEST CANE AND BANANA PRODUCERS SAID HIS FIRM HAD
BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN ANY ADDITIONAL FERTILIZERS

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE GROWING SEASON. THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE REPORTED THE SITUATION HAD
BECOME SO GRAVE THAT THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AUTHORITY WAS
CONDUCTING A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE EFFECTS OF THE
SHORTAGE ON HARVEST
PROJECTIONS
IRVING

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FERTILIZERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINGST03901
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770260-0097
Format: TEL
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770734/aaaabddy.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 00e56d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1793341
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FERTILIZER SHORTAGE IN JAMAICA
TAGS: EAGR, ECON, PDEV, JM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/00e56d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009